

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An upper/insole assembly for use in constructing an article of
2 footwear, comprising:
 - 3 (a) an upper comprising:
 - 4 (i) an inner surface;
 - 5 (ii) an outer surface;
 - 6 (iii) a lateral peripheral flange; and
 - 7 (iv) a medial peripheral flange; and
 - 8 (b) an insole comprising:
 - 9 (i) a top surface;
 - 10 (ii) a bottom surface;
 - 11 (iii) a lateral peripheral edge;
 - 12 (iv) a medial peripheral edge;
 - 13 (v) an arch portion;
 - 14 (vi) a phalangeal portion; and
 - 15 (vii) a heel portion,
- 16 wherein at least a portion of the lateral peripheral flange and at
17 least a portion of the medial peripheral flange of the upper of the upper/insole
18 assembly are stitched to the insole in the phalangeal and heel portions but wherein the
19 lateral and medial peripheral flanges of the upper are not stitched to the insole through
20 the arch portion, and further wherein the lateral peripheral flange of the upper is
21 wrapped around the lateral peripheral edge of the insole in the arch portion and the
22 medial peripheral flange of the upper is wrapped around the medial peripheral edge of
23 the insole in the arch portion, and further wherein the lateral and medial peripheral
24 flanges are secured to the bottom surface of the arch portion of the insole.
- 1 2. An article of footwear, comprising: the upper/insole assembly
2 for use in constructing an article of footwear according to claim 1 and a bottom
3 component comprising an outsole component and a midsole component, wherein at
4 least a portion of the midsole component is fixed to the upper/insole assembly.

1 3. The article of footwear according to claim 2, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 4. The article of footwear according to claim 2, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises a heel portion and substantially all of the heel
3 portion of the bottom component is stitched to the lateral and medial peripheral
4 flanges of the upper through the heel portion of the insole component.

1 5. The article of footwear according to claim 4, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 6. The article of footwear according to claim 2, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises a phalangeal portion and substantially all of the
3 phalangeal portion of the bottom component is stitched to the lateral and medial
4 peripheral flanges of the upper through the phalangeal portion of the insole
5 component.

1 7. The article of footwear according to claim 6, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 8. The article of footwear according to claim 6, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises a heel portion and substantially all of the heel
3 portion of the bottom component is stitched to the lateral and medial peripheral
4 flanges of the upper through the heel portion of the insole component.

1 9. The article of footwear according to claim 8, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 10. The upper/insole assembly for use in constructing an article of
2 footwear according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the lateral and medial
3 peripheral flanges are wrapped around the lateral and medial peripheral edges of the
4 phalangeal portion of the insole and secured to the bottom surface of the phalangeal
5 portion of the insole.

1 11. An article of footwear, comprising: the upper/insole assembly
2 for use in constructing an article of footwear according to claim 10 and a bottom
3 component comprising a midsole component, an outsole component, a heel portion,
4 and a phalangeal portion wherein substantially all of the heel portion of the bottom
5 component is stitched to the lateral and medial peripheral flanges of the upper through
6 the heel portion of the insole component and the phalangeal portion of the bottom
7 component is fixed to the phalangeal portion of the insole.

1 12. The article of footwear according to claim 11, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 13. The upper/insole assembly for use in constructing an article of
2 footwear according to claim 10, wherein at least a portion of the lateral and medial
3 peripheral flanges are wrapped around the lateral and medial peripheral edges of the
4 heel portion of the insole and secured to the bottom surface of the heel portion of the
5 insole.

1 14. An article of footwear, comprising: the upper/insole assembly
2 for use in constructing an article of footwear according to claim 13 and a bottom
3 component comprising a midsole component, an outsole component, a heel portion
4 and a phalangeal portion, wherein the phalangeal portion of the bottom component is
5 fixed to the phalangeal portion of the bottom surface of the insole and the heel portion
6 of the bottom component is fixed to the heel portion of the bottom surface of the

7 insole, and further wherein, the outer surface of the lateral and medial peripheral
8 flanges of the upper contacts the top surface of the bottom component.

1 15. The article of footwear according to claim 14, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 16. The upper/insole assembly for use in constructing an article of
2 footwear according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the lateral and medial
3 peripheral flanges are wrapped around the lateral and medial peripheral edges of the
4 heel portion of the insole and secured to the bottom surface of the heel portion of the
5 insole.

1 17. An article of footwear, comprising: the upper/insole assembly
2 for use in constructing an article of footwear according to claim 16 and a bottom
3 component comprising a midsole component, an outsole component, a heel portion,
4 and a phalangeal portion wherein substantially all of the phalangeal portion of the
5 bottom component is stitched to the lateral and medial peripheral flanges of the upper
6 through the phalangeal portion of the insole component and the heel portion of the
7 bottom component is fixed to the heel portion of the insole.

1 18. The article of footwear according to claim 17, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.

1 19. The upper/insole assembly for use in constructing an article of
2 footwear according to claim 1, wherein the upper further comprises a peripheral toe
3 flange and a peripheral heel flange and further wherein the lateral peripheral flange,
4 the medial peripheral flange, the peripheral toe flange and the peripheral heel flange
5 together provide a flange substantially surrounding the perimeter of the upper.

1 20. The upper/insole assembly for use in constructing an article of
2 footwear according to claim 19, wherein the peripheral flanges are wrapped around
3 the lateral and peripheral edges of the insole and the inner surface of each of the
4 peripheral flanges of the upper are secured to the bottom surface of the insole.

1 21. An article of footwear, comprising: the upper/insole assembly
2 according to claim 20 and a bottom component comprising a midsole component and
3 an outsole component, wherein the bottom component is fixed to the bottom surface
4 of the insole and further wherein the bottom component contacts the outer surface of
5 the peripheral flanges.

1 22. The article of footwear according to claim 21, wherein the
2 bottom component further comprises at least one shank that provides support to the
3 arch portion of the upper/insole assembly and article of footwear.